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Fernwood Botanical Garden announces new Executive Director

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Mary Krinock

COMMUNITY REPORT

NILES — Fernwood announces the hiring of Mary Krinock as its new executive director, who will join the staff on November 11, 2024.

Originally from Michigan, Krinock comes to Fernwood with a wealth of experience and knowledge in arts and cultural institutions and the nonprofit sector. Her most recent role was Chief of Staff for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Before that, Krinock held senior leadership positions at the Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago.

In 2011, she became the Director of Strategic Initiatives and Special Projects to the President of the Griffin Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. After 18 months in that role, she was promoted to Chief of Staff, where she served as the liaison to leaders, employees, donors, and public officials. In her most recent role there, she was promoted to Vice President of Operations at the Museum, where she was in charge of facilities, construction, IT, guest services, and revenue-generating lines, including retail, special events, and food services.

Krinock's early career included working as a Legislative Coordinator for the Michigan Association of Counties, an Assistant Director of External Programs at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and an Archives Assistant at New York University.

Krinock earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Michigan State University and a Master of Arts in Visual Arts Administration from New York University.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to such a notable organization. Fernwood's mission inspires me, and I am eager to lead the garden towards its next chapter of growth and impact," Krinock said.

Krinock will replace Carol Line, who is set to retire in December.

See DIRECTOR, Page A7

Brandywine board members discuss enrollment, student engagement

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — Monday's Brandywine Board of Education meeting featured reports on enrollment and staff engagement as well as a tribute to the Brandywine Marching Band.

Superintendent Travis Walker said the official fall enrollment count ended up a little lower than anticipated but still higher than last year's numbers. He said the official fall enrollment count was 1,313 students, as compared to last year's 1,284 students.

"We're up 29 students from last year's numbers," he told board members. "We're down from what we originally thought it would be."

Walker also talked about the administrative observations already done this fall as well as efforts related to fostering engagement with staff and students.

He said the administrative observations were started two years ago with himself, building principals and Assistant Superintendent Amanda Lezotte participating. While the goal two years ago was to make sure teachers were being evaluated uniformly across the board, the goal now is to see all the great things teachers are doing in the classroom.

The reason for the change in administrative observations goals is that the state has changed how staff evaluations are conducted. Staff, including principals and administrators, are no longer evaluated in that way with no "effective" or "highly effective" ratings given out.

"Those ratings are gone but we want to get into the classrooms anyway," Walker said. "It's great to hear the conversations principals are having and it's great to get in there to see the great things teachers are doing. We will be doing it two more times this year."

The district's fostering engagement effort is continuing after a group of teachers and administrators went to trainings over the summer and the staff of the consulting firm the district hired came to Brandywine to talk to the other staff.

He said the district conducted a survey of the 85 to 90 students who have taken part in the training and got responses from 31 teachers. "All but two have tried at least two strategies in the classroom about relatedness and credibility," he said. "There are six elements and those were the first two, we're going to slowly work through the rest."

He added that 58 percent of respondents employed strategies multiple times a week and another 21 percent once a week. Also, 70 percent of staff said it was easy to implement the strategies, 22 percent were neutral about it and two percent said it wasn't easy to work the strategies into daily lessons.

"Half of the staff said they felt like the strategies led to better engagement from students this year," he said. "One teacher said they felt like student engagement was up but they weren't sure if it was from the strategies or the fact that no cell phones are allowed in the middle/high school."

In the tribute to the marching band, band director Ruth

See BOARD, Page A6

"I've gotten a whole lot of support from people in town. I love the people that come in."
— **Faith Boal**

AN INK-REDIBLE EXPERIENCE

New Buchanan tattoo parlor 'a dream come true' for owner

By JUSTIN FLAGEL
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN — Those seeking to add to their collection of body art or to get their first tattoo have a new option in downtown Buchanan.

Bucktown Parlor, located at 207 East Front Street, has been open for a few months. Artist and owner, Faith Boal, is excited to bring her creative work and joy of working with people to the area where she grew up.

Boal set out to create an intentionally "homey" design for her shop, giving customers a cozy and welcoming environment meant to be friendly to those who may feel out of place stepping into a traditional tattoo parlor. She achieves this with lighter colors, open space, comfortable seats adorned with pillows, and comic books and other items to keep those in the waiting room occupied.

"I try to make it as comforting and not intimidating as possible," she said.

Boal expressed that she has always wanted to be a tattoo artist. She's been an artist all of her life, still spending much of her time drawing. She apprenticed at Ink About It Tattooing in Bridgman and spent time working at Order & Chaos Tattoo in Niles.

She long dreamed of opening her own tattoo parlor, combining that vision of a welcoming space with her passion for body art.

See TATTOO, Page A7

JUSTIN FLAGEL | LEADER PUBLICATIONS CONTRIBUTOR
Bucktown Parlor owner Faith Boal.

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Niles City Council talks Broadway bridge project, November election

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The Broadway Bridge will soon receive needed improvements, thanks to funding secured by the Department of Public Works.

City Administrator Ric Huff provided the council with an update on the city's Broadway Bridge rehabilitation project. Thanks to the efforts of Public Works Director Joseph Ray, Huff said the city was able to secure $4.15 million in funding for the project, which aims to restore the bridge to maintain reliable operation of the structure and preserve safe passage.

Huff said there will be an additional $400,000 in local match funds and likely some engineering costs the city will have to cover. Planning and engineering design for the project will take place in 2025-2026 and construction will likely be 2027.

"These are significantly expensive projects and Joe Ray and his staff started planning many years in advance for these types of repairs and potential replacement of bridges like that," Huff said. "As roadway funds become available, he is continually setting aside some of those dollars to make sure that there is adequate money in the account to make the repairs when they become necessary."

Because Ray and his team were able to secure funding for the bridge rehabilitation, monies that the city had set aside for potential repairs have been reallocated to local road work.

"We're talking in the ballpark of $400,000 a year that we're going to be able to reinvest in local roads," Huff said. "Over the last few years, we've been putting in $75,000 to $100,000 in roads and we're going to be able to boost that up to $400,000 or so. That is some amazing work on (Ray's) part and I just wanted to recognize that."

"It's a big deal," said Mayor Nick Shelton. "Roads are very important in this community and I just really appreciate your efforts."

See COUNCIL, Page A7

OBITUARIES

Elbert Roseman
George Bolton
E. Kay Lapham
Dorothy Walker
Markam Alexander

A6

FRANKLY
TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

"At what point are high food prices gouging and not just inflation?"

A2

Niles beats Paw Paw, wins second straight conference title

B1

FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email rich.cains@leaderpub.com

"Frankly, our Republican Party is a big disappointment...looking to a person who is a narcissist, a liar, and a bully for leadership. And our children have his behavior as an example. What can we expect for our future?"

"Hats off to the folks at Plym Park Golf Course for a great year! The course was in the best shape it has been in several years. Sorry to see it close this weekend, but already looking forward to next year and continued improvements!"

"Scott Novak will be missed. For many years I enjoyed reading his columns and coverage of local sports."

"I was saddened to hear of Scott Novak's passing. He was a tremendous asset to our community. He really enjoyed seeing the successes of young athletes."

"Consider the 80 degree weather in October a gift from heaven. Be sure to step outside and take in some of the warmth that we usually don't get this time of year. Take a walk and enjoy the colors. Rumor has it Michigan may get snow this winter....."

"Go Lions Go!"

"I find no humor in mocking the home island from where I come. I believe the comments at the Trump rally were way out of line. This island has struggled with hurricanes and the pandemic and yet people are working with each other the best they can to rebuild. Without Puerto Rico being a state, it does not receive the monetary help like Florida."

"Please vote! If you think adding tariffs to imports will help businesses and prices in the US, you are sadly mistaken. We depend on raw materials and products from other countries. We also sell products to those same countries. This is truly a recipe for disaster."

"Maybe Joe and Kamala should have taken a better look at securing our borders rather than doing little in the past 3 years to stop illegals from coming into the US. This only became an issue because Trump called them out on it."

"At what point are high food prices gouging and not just inflation?"

"Funny how gas prices are falling just before an election."

"Unhinged, vindictive, philanderer, egomaniac, corrupt, liar..... if you know someone who fits these qualities, you may not want to cast your vote for them. "

WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Mostly Sunny	80% Chance Rain Showers	Rain	Rain	40% Chance Rain Showers	Sunny
60° 43°	58° 55°	71° 62°	70° 48°	56° 43°	56° 39°

DOWNTOWN NILES HOSTS ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — A festive, fall atmosphere debuted in downtown Niles last weekend.

Niles Main Street DDA's annual Fall Festival came to life Saturday in downtown Niles.

Festival highlights included a fall artisan market, a pumpkin carving and painting contest, carriage rides, trick or treating, food trucks, a performance from local music group The Redbud Ramblers and more.

Fall Fest was an absolute blas," said Bettina Payton, owner of Bee Crafty, 103 E. Main St. "There was a lot of foot traffic throughout town all day, kids and adults playing with sidewalk chalk, hundreds of kids turned out for a safe trick or treat. The market appeared to be well attended and the Redbud Ramblers had a crowd of fans as well. We already have ideas brewing for the 3rd annual fall festival for 2025."

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHARLES NELSON, OWNER OF ON BASE PRODUCTIONS

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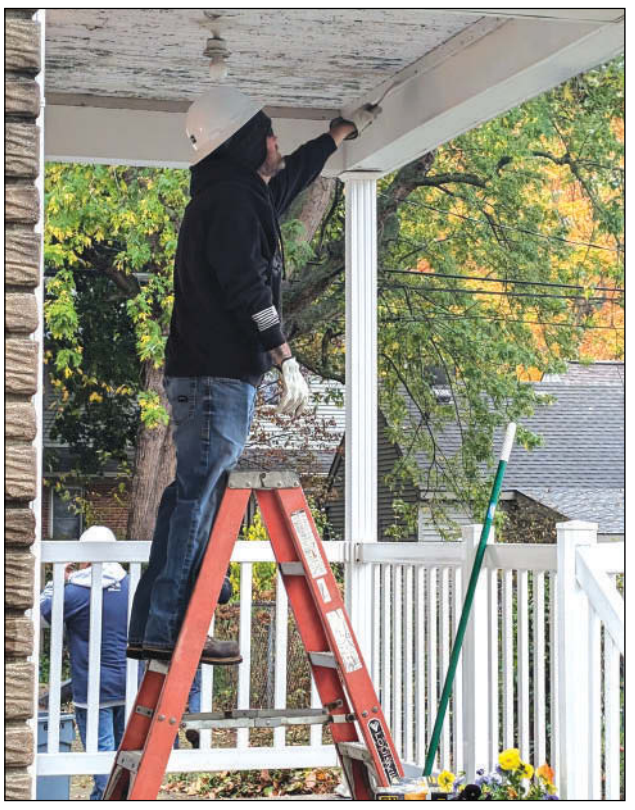
MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Wolverine Pipeline partners with United Way, Meals on Wheels for annual Day of Caring

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com



MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

NILES — A group of local organizations teamed up to give a community member a hand Friday Oct. 25.

Wolverine Pipeline, United Way of Southwest Michigan and Meals on Wheels of Southwest Michigan partnered Friday to clean up the yard of and make facade improvements for Deborah, a Niles senior citizen, during its annual Day of Caring.

Since 2008, Wolverine Pipeline employees have donated a day of work toward bettering the community. In addition to yard work, the group pressure washed Debra's fence, installed security lights, cleaned gutters and painted the house.

"We came out here today because we wanted to help this senior who lived in this home and to bring her hope and give her some sunshine to make her happy," said Wolverine Pipeline Employee David Brooks. "This is at no cost to her and we want it to be that way. We're happy to do it. Seniors care about their home and due to circumstances in life, whether it's they don't have a spouse to help them or they don't have family to help them, or they don't have the resources to make the changes to their house, we want to come out here and make it happen. We want to help this person in a way that they would want to help themselves but can't."

Wolverine Pipeline's Efrain Lazaro and Anthony Fuller said the Day of Caring is an event they look forward to each year.

"I think it's great," Lazaro said. "The guys enjoy this type of work. They like to help, they like to stay busy. Wolverine gave us the opportunity to help a senior citizen in need and we're more than happy to come out and help."

"It's rewarding having the opportunity to help people in your community that need help," Fuller said. "Working with an employer that gives you the opportunity to help out the community that you're based out of is great."

Linda Tinsley, Executive Director of Meals on Wheels of Southwest Michigan, and Dawn Howley, Campaign Relations Manager of United Way, were on hand for Friday's Day of Caring.

"I'm actually really inspired by both David Brooks and Wolverine Pipeline for the history of what they've been doing," Tinsley said. "Not only are they're trying to help these individuals, they're trying to inspire other companies to come alongside organizations to do similar work and just to be part of that incredible example is wonderful. We really try to go beyond the meals that we provide – we do well-being checks on our clients every day – but to be able to connect them to someone in our community that can help them is just a win-win for everyone. I think by coming together we make a much broader impact for people and to be part of that, I'm just super proud."

"Wolverine, their entire team is just phenomenal," Howley said. "They not only are long-time scores in United Way, but the things that they just want to do and make the community any better and that's where United Way is about. They know that our goals are to make a thriving community. We want everybody in the community to have an opportunity for their best life, whatever that may mean, and it takes all of us coming together to do that. Wolverine, as you can see, they're dedicated, they're hard-working and this just scratches at the surface of what they do also in the community. I couldn't be more proud of our partnership."

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet **Snowflake**, a two-year-old cat with Paws of Hope. Volunteers said she has a playful and affectionate personality. Found outside in cold, rainy weather with her tiny kittens, Snowflake learned to be cautious around other cats, but may be okay with feline housemates if introduced slowly. She has no known experience with dogs and is fine with children. Her foster prefers a non-smoking household. She is spayed and current shots. Contact Paws of Hope at information@pawsofhope.org.

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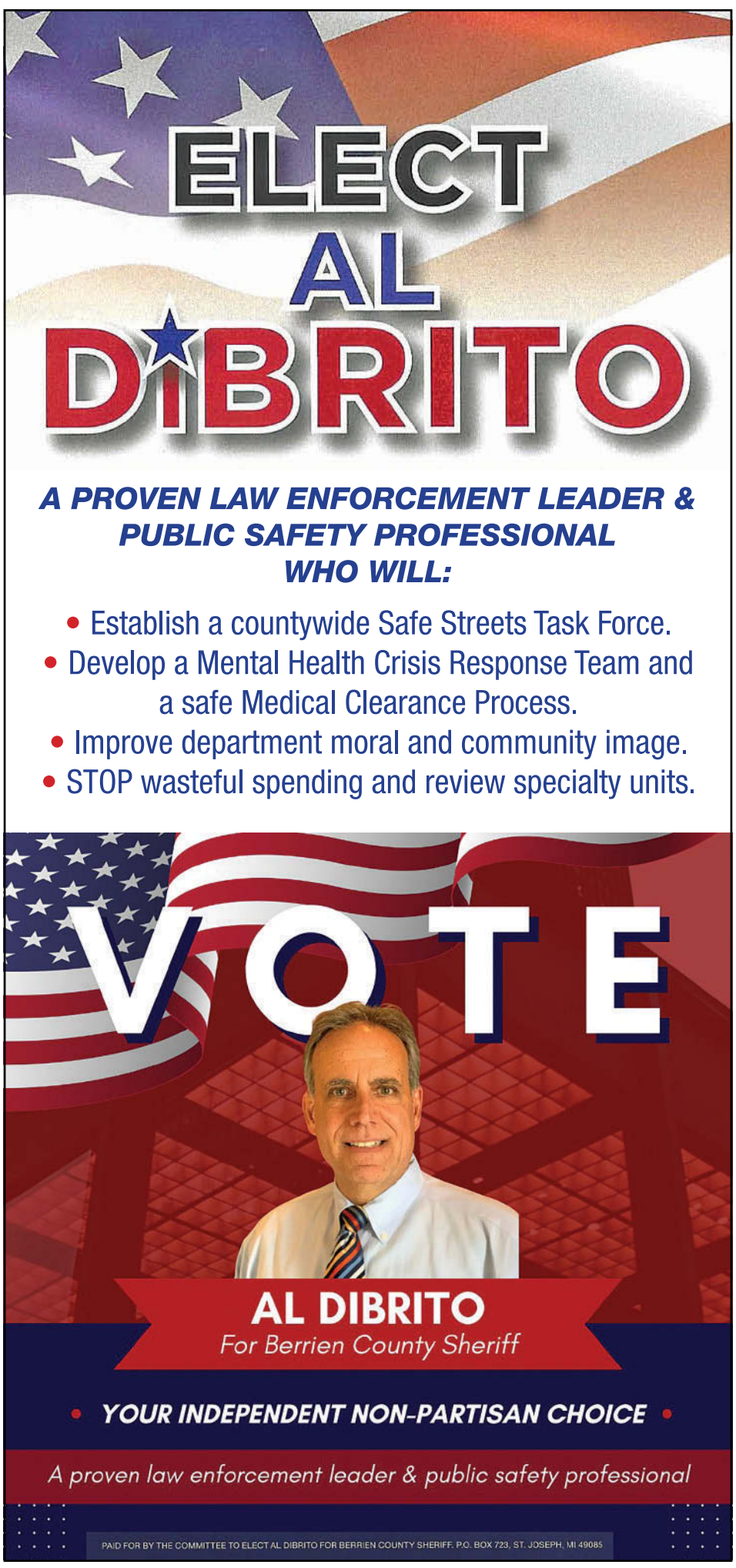
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Opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What is wrong with the human race?

As I read news articles from different publications or watch any news station, I have always wondered why a desire to show when a person gets arrested, goes to court, gets a DUI. Etc. Is it to shame the person even more than they have been shamed. I've learned in life that everyone gives great lip service on being nice and living by the golden rule, but when "IT" hits the fan for people, so many will distance themselves from them like they have the plague. I read an article recently where a teacher loses everything for a mistake they made. Yes, it was not good, and yes it could have had a worse outcome. BUT it didn't. Give a suspension, penalty, but to ruin someone's ability to do the thing they know and love best, is ridiculous. To serve a life sentence for a misdemeanor crime, how nice, may everyone be so perfect in life and not make mistakes. I know that everyone has made mistakes of one kind or another and just did not get caught making that mistake to suffer public scrutiny, were all human and fall short of the glory. Do I care who gets a DUI, arrested for whatever they did, No I do not. I know people that revel in others having struggles, I guess it makes them feel like they are doing it right. I call these people "Hypocrites"". You've heard of fake news, well there is a lot of fake people out there as well. I challenge the leader publication to quit printing the negative topics and replace the space with the good people do for each other in our community, but then, maybe there is not that much good going around to make that work.

Tom Spain
Niles

NEWS

Brandywine to host annual Veterans Day breakfast

COMMUNITY REPORT

NILES — Brandywine Community Schools will be holding its annual Veterans Day breakfast on Monday, November 11 at the Brandywine Athletic Community Center, 1700 Bell Rd., beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Brandywine officials are proud to hold its second Veterans Day event in honor of community members who have served in the military. In addition to breakfast served by the district's Food Services department, Merritt Elementary students will say the Pledge of Allegiance, the Brandywine High School Band will play the National Anthem, the Brandywine Choir will sing, and district staff will be in attendance to speak with and welcome Veterans.

"Veterans Day is an opportunity for us to honor the men and women who have selflessly served our country and to reflect on the deep impact of their sacrifices," said Superintendent Travis Walker.

"At Brandywine Community Schools, we are proud to celebrate this day with our students, helping them understand the importance of service and gratitude as we strive to build a strong, compassionate community."

Veterans who would like to attend the breakfast are asked to RSVP by filling out a Google form at https://bit.ly/4dts1Zx or calling Brittney Mitchell, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, at 269-684-7150 ext. 4209 by November 6.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

BIRTHS

Qatisha Stevenson and Antonio Ballard Jr. are the parents of a girl, Aubreea Ballard, born at 7:23 a.m. Sept. 20, 2024 at Corewell Health South in Niles. Ballard weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Marjorie Feathers and Chester Stevenson Sr. Paternal grandparents are Cathleen Williams and Antonio Ballard Sr. She has four siblings: Antonio Ballard III, Araeyah Ballard, Ajionna Ballard, and Anteris Ballard.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

McCollum Livery project added to Buchanan's social district

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN — Buchanan City Commissioners took action in support of the McCollum Livery project Monday night and heard about other businesses thinking about participating in the downtown social district program.

Meanwhile, commissioners postponed a vote on the replacement of the Front Street retaining wall that has been in disrepair for a number of years. The vote to postpone came after only two bids were received for the project and the company that would commit to finishing the work by Dec. 20 was the high bidder.

Commissioners debated possible options and City Manager Tim Lynch said he would investigate further and bring back a recommendation at the commission's next meeting on Nov. 12. Other action at that meeting will include selecting city manager candidates to interview. The Nov. 12 meeting is on a Tuesday due to Nov. 11 being Veterans Day.

It will also be the first meeting with commissioners elected on Nov. 5. Six people are running for two commission seats. Incumbents Larry Money and Patrick Swem are facing off with Tony Houser, Lorilie Holmes, Scott King and Angela Lowery. King is running as a write-in candidate.

One option suggested by Mayor Mark Weedon would have steel pilings put in to shore up the retaining wall area and placing a mural along the side facing the street. The retaining wall that has crumbled is across the street from the American Legion and Weedon suggested a mural that would honor veterans and first responders.

The city has budgeted $350,000 to fix the Front Street retaining wall as well as another $1.1 million to fix the Days Avenue sinkhole that appeared

See LIVERY, Page B6

Niles Daily Star

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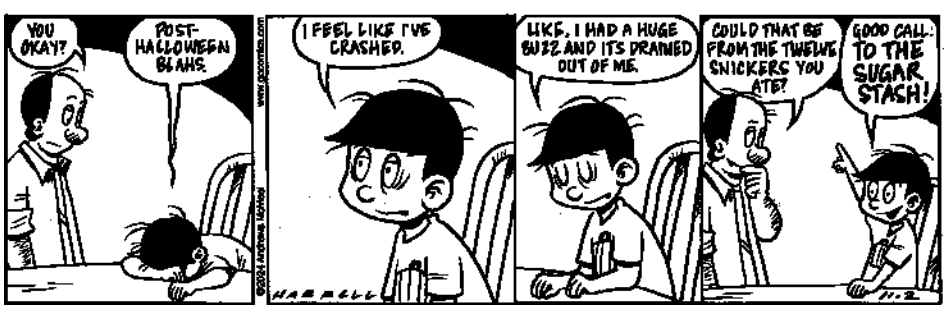
COMICS & PUZZLES

ADAM


YOU OKAY?
POST-HALLOWEEN BLAHS.
I FEEL LIKE I'VE CRASHED.
LIKE, I HAD A HUGE BUZZ AND ITS DRAINED OUT OF ME.
COULD THAT BE FROM THE TWELVE SNICKERS YOU ATE?
GOOD CALL. TO THE SUGAR STASH!
HARMELL
11-2

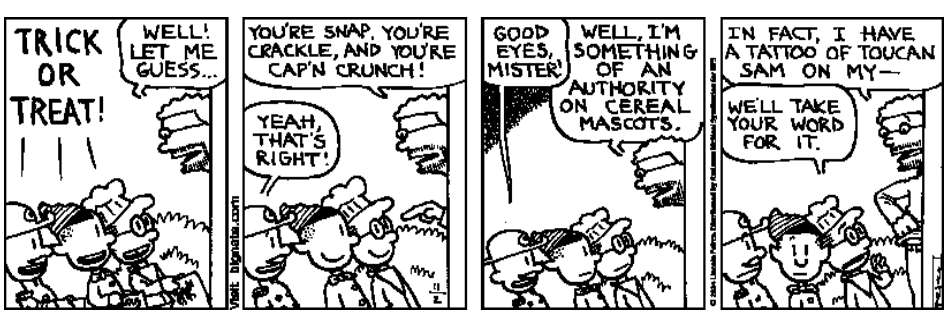
ALLEY OOP

THERE ARE SOME PRETTY GNARLY BUGS HERE IN THE STONE AGE. I HOPE YOU'RE GOOD WITH SHOTS.
OH, YEAH. I'M UP TO DATE ON ALL OF MY VACCINATIONS.
I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT WILL HELP YOU.
ANYWAY, HERE'S A BLUNGSHOT. YOU MIGHT WANT TO GET SOME PRACTICE IN.
©2024 UFS
11/2

ARLO & JANIS

TODAY IS ALL SOULS DAY!
WHAT IS ALL SOULS DAY?
WELL, YESTERDAY WAS ALL SAINTS DAY, IN HONOR OF THE RELIGIOUS ROCK STARS PARTYING IN HEAVEN!
ALL SOULS DAY IS TODAY, A DAY DEVOTED TO COMMON SINNERS STILL STUCK BEHIND THE ROPE LINE.
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF HEAVEN DIFFERENTLY, SOMEHOW.
Johnson 11/2

BIG NATE


TRICK OR TREAT!
WELL! LET ME GUESS...
YOU'RE SNAP, YOU'RE CRACKLE, AND YOU'RE CAP'N CRUNCH!
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!
GOOD EYES, MISTER!
WELL, I'M SOMETHING OF AN AUTHORITY ON CEREAL MASCOTS.
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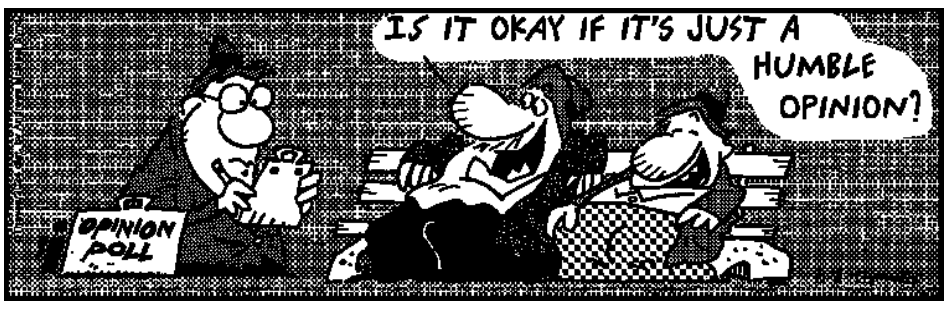
BORN LOSER

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
I'M STARTING A DIARY.
SO I'M PUTTING YOU ON NOTICE.
WE'D BETTER START DOING SOME INTERESTING THINGS THAT I CAN WRITE ABOUT!
11/2

FRANK & ERNEST



GRIZZWELLS

SIGH! I SURE WISH I WASN'T SUCH A RUNT
STOP BEING SO ROUGH ON YOURSELF, PIERPOINT
ANYONE WOULD BE PROUD TO HAVE A BODY LIKE YOURS
REALLY? YOU MEAN YOU'D TRADE PLACES WITH ME?
OH, YEAH... RIGHT

THATABABY

Cool sunglasses!
Thanks, man!
They're polarized.
I know there's a better joke in there somewhere, but I've yet to find it.
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SODOKU PUZZLE

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

DIFFICULTY RATING: 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

	6		9				7	5
7				1				
4				2				
8	3			7		1		9
			8		6			
5		6		9			8	4
				6				1
				8				2
6	9				7		4	

MODERATELY CONFUSED

IT'S AMAZING HOW WE WERE BORN IN THE SAME CITY AS OUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM.
STAHLER
11/2
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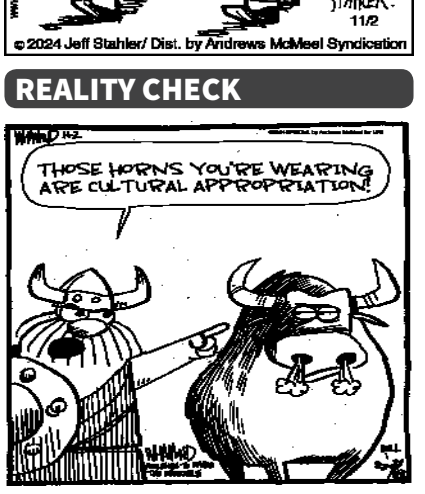
REALITY CHECK

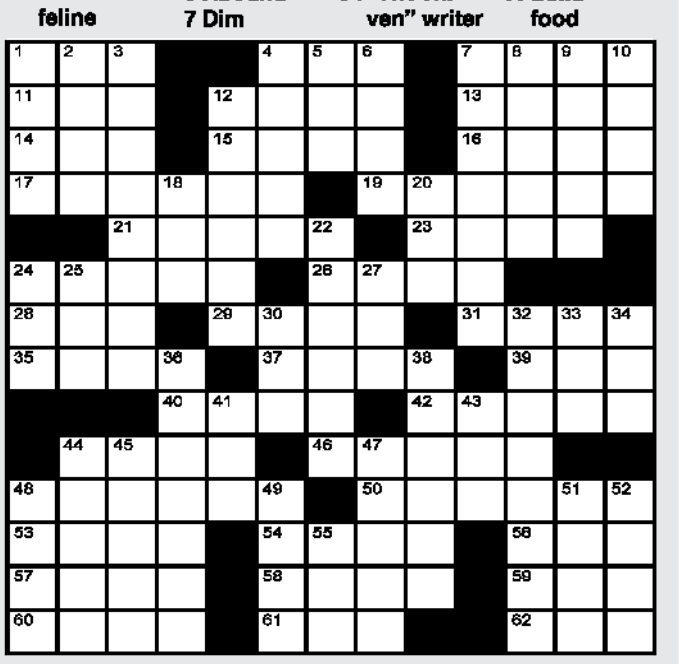


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

ACROSS
1 Unrefined
4 Bowler
7 Q-tip
11 Org. for attorneys
12 Auction
13 Fabled racer
14 — in the ointment
15 Dice
16 Prima donna's song
17 Nonstick material
19 Humble
21 Big blood vessel
23 Prescribed amount
24 Wool fabric
26 Masticate
28 Affirmative vote
29 Appointment
31 Bark
35 "Those — the Days"
37 Ladder piece
39 Zodiac feline
40 — Harl
42 Mountain ridge
44 Financial burden
46 Purple flower
48 Overhaul
50 Carried on
53 Finished
54 Peak
56 Numbered rd.
57 Croon
58 Singer — Bennett
59 Last countdown number
60 Palo —
61 Hasten
62 Snooze

DOWN
1 Life-saving vessel
2 Competent
3 Traveler on foot
4 Frequented place
5 Priestly vestment
6 Abound
7 Dim
8 Merchandise
9 Develop
10 Throb
12 Made a point
18 Ship's record
20 "— to a Nightingale"
22 Real
24 Adage
25 Storm center
27 Farm bird
30 Skill
32 Unseen particle
33 Rent
34 "The Raven" writer
36 Trade ban
38 Milky Way, for one
41 PIN prompter
43 Tried for office
44 — -may-care
45 Happening
47 Peace goddess
48 Sub — (in secret)
49 Walkway
51 Sicilian volcano
52 Profound
55 Luau food



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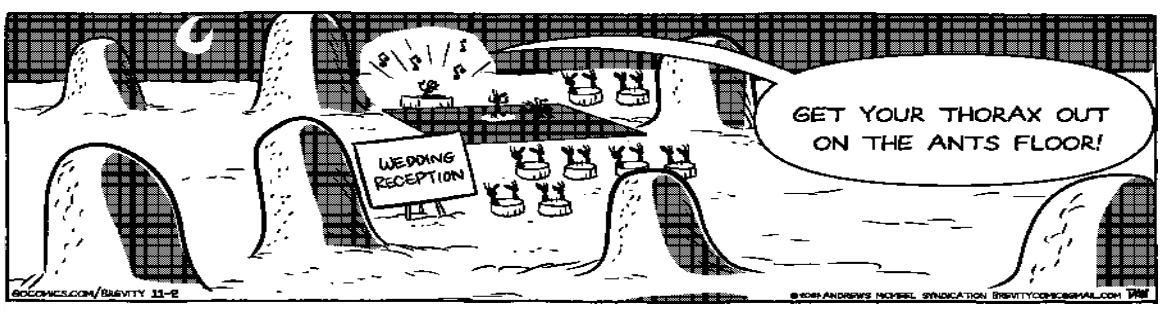
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DEATH NOTICES

Elbert Roseman, 69, of South Bend, passed away Thursday, October 17, 2024. Arrangements are pending and have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, of Niles. www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

OBITUARIES

George Bolton

August 16, 1953
- October 23, 2024

George W. Bolton passed away Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Born in South Bend, Indiana on August 16, 1953, the son of George D. Bolton and Nita (Hale) Bolton, he was a graduate of Niles Brandywine High School, Class of 1971. George was proud of his community college roots and started his higher education at Southwestern Michigan College. He went on to earn a BA from Western Michigan University and an MBA from Nazareth University. On May 1, 1976, he was united in marriage with Catherine (Kaiser) Bolton of Paw Paw, Michigan, who survives him. Other survivors include his father; two sons, Jacob (Susan) Bolton of Arlington, Virginia, and Nicholas (Erica) Bolton of Roswell, Georgia; four grandchildren, George Joseph, Mary Elizabeth, Sylvia Marion, and Maris Jones; and a brother, Bradley Bolton of Hudsonville, Michigan, along with cousins, nieces and nephews.

George had a long and productive career in the field of pharmaceutical sales where he spent thirty-seven years at Pfizer, winning five Pro Club Awards. His crowning professional achievement was being named the #1 Viagra salesman in America.

George was a long-serving elder and deacon at the First Presbyterian Church in Paw Paw where he also taught Sunday school. He dedicated himself to community service, coaching Little League, driving a bus for the Hackett School athletic program, serving as a Boy Scout adult leader, and donating bone marrow and over fifteen gallons of blood.

For years George dreamed of traveling around the world with his wife and when he retired, he made that dream come true. Under the auspices of National Geographic, they circumnavigated the globe, visiting eleven countries across five continents.

A kind and generous man, George was a beloved member of many communities that will carry his memory in their hearts. The funeral will be Sunday, October 27 at the First Presbyterian Church in Paw Paw, Michigan (120 Pine St). Visitation will be at the church at 1pm, funeral service at 2pm. Reception to follow at the church.

Memorial contributions may be directed to First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw, 120 Pine Street, Boy Scout Troop 169 of Paw Paw and/or the American Red Cross.

E. Kay Lapham

August 11, 1954
- October 25, 2024

E. Kay Lapham, 70, of Marcellus, went home to be with her Lord and Savior Friday, October 25, 2024, in the comfort of her family's presence.

Her life began August 11, 1954, in Niles, Michigan, the youngest child of eight, born to Lincoln and Flora Freshour. She married Roy D. Lapham October 25, 1980, in Dowagiac, Michigan.

Kay will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by her husband of forty-four years, Roy Lapham of Marcellus; son, Daniel Berry of Nappanee, Indiana; granddaughters, Bailey Berry of Mississippi, Morgan Berry of Indianapolis, Indiana; sisters, Louise, Christine, Anna Sue, Pat; brothers, David, Jimmy; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, Ruby and Betty.

Family and friends will gather to celebrate Kay's life at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 16, 2024, in Trinity Bible Church, 397 Elm Street, Marcellus.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Kay be made to Trinity Bible Church, 397 Elm Street, Marcellus, Michigan 49067.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Dorothy Walker

November 13, 1924
- October 29, 2024

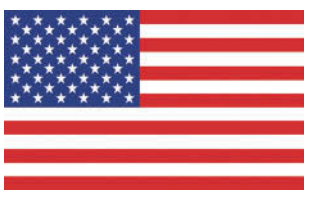
Dorothy L. Walker, 99, of Dowagiac, passed away on Tuesday morning, October 29, 2024, at Cass County Medical Care Facility in Cassopolis, MI.

She was born on November 13, 1924, in Lawrence, MI, the daughter of the late Clarence and Florence (Walker) Watson. On June 23, 1946, Dorothy was united in marriage to DeVern "Dee" Walker in Lawrence, MI. They were married for 64 years, until his passing on July 21, 2010.

Dorothy worked as a Home Economics teacher for Dowagiac Public Schools for over 35 years until her retirement. She enjoyed the outdoors, gardening, camping, going to the casino, and watching basketball and baseball. Mostly, she enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

Surviving are two children - Vicki Archer and Robert Walker; five grandchildren - Robert Archer II, Mary (Virgil) Cook, Jodie Walker, Julie (Kevin) Mack and Jamie (Jason) Spenner; seven great-grandchildren - William Cook, Kelsey Mack, Jake Mack, Olivia Spenner, Madison Spenner, Eli Spenner and Ian Spenner.

A graveside service to celebrate Dorothy's life will be held at 11:00 AM on Monday, Nov 4, 2024, at Hill Cemetery, 54560 Red Arrow Hwy, Lawrence, MI. Arrangements were entrusted to Clark Chapel - Starks Family Funeral Homes, 405 Center St, Dowagiac. Please visit Dorothy's personalized webpage to share a memory or leave condolences to her family at www.clarkch.com.



Markam Alexander

July 24, 1960
- October 30, 2024

Markam Ronald Alexander, 64, of Dowagiac, passed away on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at his home in Dowagiac. He was born July 24, 1960 in Port Huron, MI to Dale and Diane (Ownby) Alexander.

The family will receive guests from 1pm until the time of funeral service at 2pm, Monday, November 4, 2024 at Clark Chapel, 405 Center St., Dowagiac. Those wishing to leave an online condolence for the family may do so at www.clarkch.com .

Mark is survived by his children, Georgie (Aaron) Clark, and Robert (Paula) Lonero; his grandchildren, Benjamin and Evelyn Clark, and Anthony and Gianna Lonero; his father, Dale Alexander; his siblings, Dale Alexander, Kim Alexander, Wendy (J.D.) Glaser, Lazarus (Flora) Alexander, and Judy Alexander; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

He is preceded in death by his son, Markam Thomas Alexander; and his mother, Diane Alexander.

BOARD

Continued from page A1

Livengood reported that the band has had a "really wonderful marching season" and got top scores at the marching festival. Members of the band's pep band attended the board meeting and entertained board members with a number from the band's halftime show.

She said the band got first place out of seven bands at a Hastings competition and ranked second out of more bands at an East Kentwood competition.

"We're making a name for Brandywine in a huge, awesome way," Livengood said.

> "Students memorize the music as it's easy to run into others on the field if they don't memorize the music. People took notice of that and band directors of large schools came up to me and complimented me. They had never heard of us but thought the band is great."
> — Ruth Livengood

"Students memorize the music as it's easy to run into others on the field if they don't memorize the music. People took notice of that and band directors of large schools came up to me and complimented me. They had never heard of us but thought the band is great."

The high school band has 80 to 85 members and there are 60 students each in the sixth and seventh grade bands and another 35 students in the eighth grade band.

In discussion items, Walker said that the board will be asked to approve a salary schedule for non union employees. He said the salary schedule is not creating anything new but documenting the salaries non union employees already are getting so they will be protected when they get ready to retire.

Walker also gave an update on the ad hoc committee formed earlier this fall to address concerns with new Title IX regulations. That committee consists of staff, parents, students, community members and two school board members, John Jarpe and Michelanne McCombs.

The committee will meet Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. at the middle/high school media center. Board members debated whether to have the meeting open or closed to the public and decided to keep it closed so people will feel more free to talk. A report from the committee will be made at the board's next meeting on Nov. 18.

CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

R	A	W			H	A	T		S	W	A	B
A	B	A		S	A	L	E		H	A	R	E
F	L	Y		C	U	B	E		A	R	I	A
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			M	A	T	A		A	R	E	T	E
	D	E	B	T		L	I	L	A	C		
R	E	V	A	M	P		R	A	N	T	E	D
O	V	E	R		A	P	E	X		R	T	E
S	I	N	G		T	O	N	Y		O	N	E
A	L	T	O		H	I	E			N	A	P

SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

1	6	3	9	4	8	2	7	5
7	2	9	6	1	5	4	3	8
4	8	5	7	2	3	9	1	6
8	3	2	5	7	4	1	6	9
9	1	4	8	3	6	5	2	7
5	7	6	1	9	2	3	8	4
2	4	8	3	6	9	7	5	1
3	5	7	4	8	1	6	9	2
6	9	1	2	5	7	8	4	3

TATTOO

Continued from page A1

Tattoos give her a creative outlet as an artist and allow her clients a unique way to express themselves.

She notes that most customers have a general idea of what they'd like and she finds the joy in using her style to bring those wishes to reality. She'll help them work through multiple references, reviewing other body art, narrowing down the specific elements that speak to them. She enjoys the challenge of helping them find what they want. Working in retail allowed her to discover her skill and desire in working one on one with someone, assisting them in creating something unique to them.

She loves memorial pieces, recounting a story of a client who came in after losing their mother. The lost loved one had always liked tattoos, but never got one. The client wanted to live that memory for her. Boal recalls them tearing up during the process.

Boal describes the community of Buchanan as very welcoming to her and the parlor.

"I've gotten a whole lot of support from people in town," she said. "I love the people that come in."

She also expressed pride in not only owning her first business, but in being a young female business owner. Earlier in the month, the Women's Business Center at Cornerstone Alliance hosted a ribbon cutting for her.

She's thankful for the support of the community, her friends, and her family. Her parents, Doug and Kim, were hanging out in the shop and noted their pride in Faith's work.

More information on Bucktown Parlor can be found on Facebook and Instagram at @bucktownparlor and @bucktown.parlor on TikTok.

DIRECTOR

Continued from page A1

"On behalf of the board and staff, it is my great pleasure to welcome Mary to Fernwood as our new Executive Director! As we wrap up the year-long celebration of Fernwood's 60th anniversary as a public garden, we are also looking to the next sixty years. Over the coming year, Mary will take the reins and lead the team through strategic and master planning and imagine the Fernwood of the future - it looks very bright!" said Tracy Dippo, Chair, Fernwood Board of Directors.

COUNCIL

Continued from page A1

John DiCostanzo and Amanda Dunnem received a round of applause after participating in what could be their last council meeting as members of the Niles City Council. Their four-year terms have come to an end and neither DiCostanzo nor Dunnem ran for re-election.

Dunnem has worked in healthcare for more than 20 years and is the National Section Leader for CNAs with the National Hospice and Palliative Care Association. She also served on the Michigan Home Care and Hospice Public Policy Committee for three years and was a member of the Michigan Volunteer Coordinators Association for two years.

A native of Long Island, New York, DiCostanzo and his wife and children moved to Niles in 1988, attracted by the cost of living. In 2012, DiCostanzo joined the city planning commission and in 2016 became a member of city council.

DiCostanzo thanked the Niles community and the council for allowing him to serve his constituents.

"I just want to thank the folks of the fourth ward who have entrusted me with this responsibility," DiCostanzo said. "I hope that I met the expectations."

Shelton thanked DiCostanzo and Dunnem for their service on the council as well as first ward councilmember Georgia Boggs and third ward councilmember Charlie McAfee, who are running for re-election.

"I just want to thank you all for your efforts over these past four-plus years," he said. "It's been incredible – the cohesion that this board has and the ability for us to work together and disagree, and then decide, and then commit is something I respect so much about this council in this community, so I thank you. I hope I see you one more meeting but if not, thank you for all you've done for our community."

Shelton encouraged the community to vote in the Nov. 5 general election.

"I want to encourage everybody in the community to research all of the candidates, bational all the way down to local," he said. "It's so important that you know who you're voting for so I just encourage you to do as much research as you can, talk to the candidates if you can. We've got some great people running in this community and I hope that you get a chance to know them before you place your vote."

Council approves construction of new road

In other business, Council approved the emergency purchase in the amount of $47,349.18 to Pelley Excavating of Niles, Michigan for the construction of an all weather road on newly acquired property at 1950 Oak Street and charged the expense to the Electric and Water Divisions. Council also approved the emergency purchase in the amount of $3,551 to Custom Fence of Niles for installation of a sliding gate on the 1950 Oak Street property and charged the expense to the Water Division - Maintenance, Building and Grounds - Eastgate.

The recently purchased property is intended to support a municipal water well which will be piped directly to the water filtration plant. This well will serve as a "lead" well when the Airport Well Fields are down for maintenance or require rest. Currently, this function is served by Parker Well No. 3, however, this well has been developing reliability problems over the last several years.

Since the construction of a new well needs to be accomplished as quickly as possible, the next phase required access to the proposed site to allow for test drilling by the city's well purveyor. An all-weather road to support trucks was needed and the construction weather window was quickly closing, necessitating the emergency construction.

In further business, council:

• Approved the emergency purchase of two sludge press spray bar motors and gear reducers from Huber Technology, Inc. of Denver, NC in the amount of $6,233.34 for use at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and charged the expense to the Capital Plan - Machinery & Equipment - Old account.

• Approved the relocation of electric lines to the M51 right of way at the Dey and Wayne Streets crossing and pay AMTRAK $2,750 and charge the expense to the Electric Division - Overhead Conductor & Devices budget.

• Approved Extension No. 2 of the Tree Trimming and Line Clearance contract for 2025 with Tree Servants of Plymouth, Ind., charging the expense to the electric department, Tree Trimming/Line Clearance account.

• Authorized the Utilities Department to enter into an agreement with Hartline Expert Tree Service of Niles, Michigan at a cost of $3,000 to grind 15 stumps, clean-up, add top soil and seed, charging the expense to the electric department, Tree Trimming/Line Clearance account.

• Authorized the History Center to accept the quote from Haas Systems in the amount of $5,180.61 for replacement of the fire alarm panel, charging the expense to their repairs and maintenance budget.

• Approved payment to Future Construction of Watervliet, Michigan for emergency replacement of the roof at 822 Lake St., Niles, paying for the expense from CDBG Funds.

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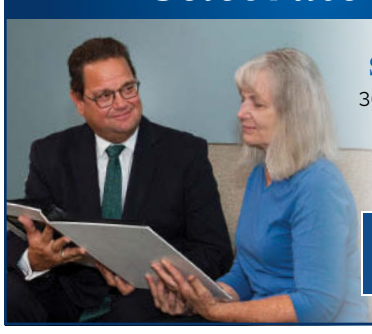

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Libbi delivered for over 100,000 workers, families, retirees and for business by listening and fighting for people ***across the political spectrum.*** She's ready to stand up for you.

Walberg:

1. Voted to cut taxes for corporations and the wealthiest.
2. Voted against tax cuts for working and middle-class families.
3. Voted against raising the $7.25/hour Fed minimum wage.

Libbi Urban on the Economy:

1. Food, gas, and housing are too high. We need to stop corporate price-gouging and invest in housing.
2. Full time workers should ***not*** live paycheck to paycheck, but have something left over. It's good for families and the local economy.
3. Make big corporations and the wealthiest pay their fair share of taxes.

Walberg:

1. Opposes reproductive healthcare freedom for women and families, contraception, and IVF.
2. Voted with Big Pharma against the $35 insulin cap.
3. Voted against the Affordable Care Act that cut health insurance costs and expanded benefits for millions of Americans.
4. Endorses forced pregnancies, even in cases of incest, rape, and when the mother's life is at risk.

Libbi Urban on Healthcare:

1. We need the freedom to make our own decisions about healthcare, including reproductive freedom.
2. We need the $35 Medicare price cap on insulin and other drugs for all – and to stop price-gouging by Big Pharma.
3. We all need full healthcare without going into debt.

Walberg:

1. Voted to cut Social Security and Medicare and raise the minium age for Social Security and Medicare, cutting benefits.
2. Voted to privatize Social Security and Medicare, to let Wall Street gamble the money on which seniors and the disabled rely.
3. Has a **zero** rating from the Association of Retired Americans for **opposing all bills that would benefit seniors.**

Libbi Urban on Social Security & Medicare:

1. Libbi will protect Social Security and Medicare and not privatize them, to keep them safe, not gambled in the stock market.
2. When the wealthiest pay their fair share into Social Security and Medicare through their taxes, there won't be any problem keeping those programs solvent.

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Niles Daily Star
Sports

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VOLLEYBALL

Buchanan volleyball earns fourth straight conference title

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — Four seasons, four conference championships.

The Buchanan volleyball team (28-6) defeated Brandywine 25-5, 25-6, 25-11 and Dowagiac 25-11, 25-12, 25-16 Saturday to win its second straight Lakeland Conference championship and fourth straight conference championship overall.

Chloe Aalfs led the team with 30 kills and 19 digs and Alyssa Carson had 24 kills and Emily Holt added 18 digs. Finley Kehoe had 15 digs and four aces, Izzy Tibbles tallied seven kills and three aces and Ella Fanslow added six kills.

Senior Sophia Bachman tallied three aces and 68 assists and surpassed 2,000 career assists in Saturday's action.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

FOOTBALL

BACK TO BACK

Niles beats Paw Paw, wins second straight conference title

By SCOTT HASSINGER
Leader Publications Contributor

PAW PAW — Sam Rucker has played in a lot of big football games in his four years at Niles.

Oct. 25's 21-0 Wolverine Conference Championship win at Falan Field against host Paw Paw was the most memorable for the 5-foot-9, 175-pound two-way senior starter at tailback and outside linebacker.

Offensively, Sam Rucker ran the ball six times for 39 yards and caught one pass for 10. But his biggest impact was felt on defense with seven tackles and a fumble recovery that led to one of the Vikings' three scores. If that wasn't enough, he also had five punts averaging 40.4 yards, including a 56 yard boot.

Niles completed its second consecutive unbeaten conference season and successfully defended its league title from a year ago when the Vikings went 10-2, including a loss in the regional finals.

"This one means a lot. It's the same situation as last year. We came out tonight and were physical did exactly what we needed to do against Paw Paw. Everyone did their job and we didn't have any problems or issues," Sam Rucker said.

Sam Rucker recovered a Paw Paw fumble at the Red Wolves' 11-yard line and scored on Talen Bennett's 11-yard scoring pass to Peyton Gordon. Ben Bruckner added the first of his three PATs for a 7-0 Vikings' in the waning seconds of the first half.

"Making that play felt pretty good. Paul Hess and I are pretty good friends and he's the one that forced the fumble then I jumped on it," Sam Rucker said.

Niles head coach Scot Shaw complimented his star runner along with his team in a season that has seen the Vikings have to endure a rash of injuries to key players, including star junior lineman Brandon Hamilton.

"Both teams played great defense in that first half. We were able to punch it in once and I think that took a little weight off our shoulders. We didn't have to make too many halftime adjustments and weathered their strong play early on," Shaw said.

"Sam does such a great job in running the ball. I've had a lot of good tailbacks. He plants his feet well as well as any, gets up field and defensively he's outstanding," Shaw said.

Paw Paw drove inside Niles' 40 twice in the third quarter. The Red Wolves turned the ball over on downs on the first drive and Niles' senior Paul Hess intercepted Red Wolves signal caller Gunnar Goodell on the second.

Hess' pick set up Niles' second score at the 10:18 mark of the fourth quarter. Gordon capped off the 68-yard drive with a 27 yard TD dash around the left end. Bruckner's PAT made it 14-0.

Paw Paw's next series ended after the Red Wolves failed on another fourth down conversion attempt.

Hess scored on a one-yard

See BACK, Page B3

SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
The Niles varsity football team poses with the Wolverine Conference Championship Banner after defeating host Paw Paw 21-0 Friday at Falan Field. It is second consecutive title for the 9-0 Vikings, who now await to hear who they will face in next week's Division 4 state playoffs. Tune in at 4:30 p.m. on FanDuel Sports Network and its website.

VOLLEYBALL

"It was a battle. Glen Oaks was scrappy and had some solid attackers. We played aggressively and with good energy the first couple sets, and then got a little quiet the third set when Glen Oaks started playing tougher."
— **Coach Jenny Nate**

SMC volleyball ends regular season with win over Glen Oaks

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — On Sophomore Night, in the final match of the regular season, Southwestern Michigan College Volleyball Team beat the Glen Oaks Vikings Tuesday evening in four sets 25-16, 25-19, 24-26, and 25-23.

"It was a battle," said Head Coach Jenny Nate. "Glen Oaks was scrappy and had some solid attackers. We played aggressively and with good energy the first couple sets, and then got a little quiet the third set when Glen Oaks started playing tougher. I was happy with the way we kept our composure, but we have to learn to maintain the highest level of energy throughout every point - the entire match. We also played smart offensively, but I would like to see us swinging more as we head into the postseason tournament. It was a great sophomore night, and we appreciate the leadership the sophomores have displayed as they helped lead us to another winning record and trip to the postseason.

"Now, we will direct all of our energy on winning the play-in match next Wednesday and are excited for the opportunity to make a run in the postseason."

The Roadrunners are 20-14 overall and finish 7-5 in the MCCAA Western Conference.

Leading serving scorers: Gia Jania 9 points, 1 ace; Talan Hiemstra 9 points; Cadence Knight 8 points, 1 ace; Josie West 7 points, 1 ace; Anna Johnson 5 points; Ryli Burks 5 points; Bri Russell 2 points

Kills: Ryli Burks 13, Josie West 11, Abi Marquis 6, Talan Hiemstra 5, Kallie Solloway 3, Gia Jania 3, Anna Johnson 2

Blocks: Gia Jania 6, Ryli Burks 4, Kallie Solloway 4, Abi Marquis 3, Talan Hiemstra 1, Josie West 1

Digs: Anna Johnson 21, Cadence Knight 17, Josie West 14, Amanda Jones 12, Talan Hiemstra 11, Ryli Burks 9, Abi Marquis 3, Gia Jania 2, Kallie Solloway 1

Assists: Anna Johnson 20, Ryli Burks 10, Cadence Knight 4

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

FOOTBALL

Edwardsburg earns 62-0 Senior Night win over Sturgis

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

EDWARDSBURG — The Edwardsburg football team ended the regular season in winning fashion Friday, Oct. 25.

The Eddies ran over and around visiting Sturgis to win 62-0 on Senior Night. Edwardsburg led 55-0 at halftime.

"We did what we had to do," said Edwardsburg coach Dan Purlee. "It was Senior Night tonight, it was good night. We're looking forward to getting into the postseason next week."

The Trojans were unable to slow down the Eddies' Wing-T offense. Edwardsburg scored nine times on plays of 47, 45, 41, 25, 24, 10, 8, 2 and 1 yard. Cameron Hayden, Grady Ostrander, Carson Cebra, Tyrus Yoder, Grant Griffin, Austin Schimings, Marco Montanari and George Purlee found the end zone for the Eddies, who totaled 373 yards of offense.

Edwardsburg finishes the season with a 6-3 record. Purlee said last season's 5-5 finish has served as motivation throughout the season for his seniors. On the last play of the game, senior quarterback Zeke Pegura, whose season ended due to an injury early in the season, entered the game to take a knee in victory formation.

"This is a great senior group," Purlee said. "They've put in a ton of work all year long, a very committed group. They've been huge for us – they're the heart and soul of this team and we want to keep playing."

The announcement of the qualifiers and first-round pairings for both the 11 and 8-player playoffs will take place at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27, on the "Selection Sunday Show" on FanDuel Sports Network and its website. The playoff qualifiers and pairings will be posted to the MHSAA Website following the Selection Sunday Show, and times and dates will be added Monday, Oct. 28.

The MHSAA Football Playoffs conclude with the 8-Player Finals on Nov. 23 at Northern Michigan University's Superior Dome and 11-Player Finals to be played Nov. 29-30 at Ford Field.

Purlee looks forward to the beginning of the "second season" for the Eddies.

"I feel like we're getting healthier and we expect to play either Niles or Paw Paw," Purlee said. "Our guys are excited for the opportunity."

The Eddies faced Battle Creek Harper Creek Friday night in the opening round of Division 4 district play. Leaderpub.com will be updated with a recap of the game.

VOLLEYBALL

Krush Volleyball to host tryouts for high schoolers

COMMUNITY REPORT

Krush Volleyball Club, a registered member of USA Volleyball and the AAU, is holding a special tryout for high school-age players from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10th form 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. For directions to Krush Courts visit www.krushvbc.com or email dennis.cooper@krushvbc.com.

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CROSS COUNTRY

Area cross country runners qualify for state meet

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

PORTAGE — 18 Leader-area runners qualified for the state finals in Saturday's MHSAA Division 2 and 3 cross country regionals held at Portage Saturday.

The top 15 individual runners and the top three teams advance to the state meet, which will be run at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn Saturday.

On the boys side, Dowagiac's Owen Saylor and Edwardsburg's George Scupham finished fifth and ninth overall to qualify for the finals. Saylor posted a time of 16:12 and Scupham 16:30 to become the only Division 2 state qualifiers for Dowagiac, Edwardsburg or Niles.

In Division 3, the Buchanan cross country team qualified with a second place finish. John Keser (17:10.68); 14. Liam McBeth (17:25.87) and 15. Jack Sherwood (Buchanan) (17:28.37) placed 11th, 14th and 15th respectively.

On the girls side, the Buchanan cross country team placed second overall with a score of 70 points. Buchanan's Madeline Young (20:17.63), Avery Mollberg (21:30.36) and Makynna Williams (21:38.58) placed fifth, 12th and 14th overall. Brandywine's Alison Murray (21:30.34) and Miley Young (21:33.60) placed 11th and 13th to qualify as individuals.

BOYS
DIVISION 2
At Portage

Team Standings: 1. Marshall 59; 2. Three Rivers 89; Otsego 90; 4. Battle Creek Harper Creek 111: 5. Edwardsburg 128; 6. St. Joseph 138; 7. Sturgis 159; 8. Paw Paw 225; 9. Berrien Springs 243; 10. Niles 253; 11. Vicksburg 263; 12. Coldwater 268; 13. South Haven 394; 14. Dowagiac DNF

1. Jack Bidwell (Marshall) 15:17.

Area state qualifiers

5. Owen Saylor (Dowagiac) 16:12.70; 9. George Scupham (Edwardsburg) 16:30.10.

Other area finishers: 29. Reed Gates (Edwardsburg) 17:26.40; 31. Jon Leith (Edwardsburg) 17:36.20; 32. Jack Bell (Edwardsburg) 17:37.60; 36. Jaden Gregory (Edwardsburg) 17:45.10; 39. Maguire Johnson (Edwardsburg) 17:56.00; 42. Beau Kirtdoll (Niles) 18:04.70; 47: Liam Pesce (Niles) 18:22.80; 54. Ceon Kirtdoll (Niles) 18:36.30; 59. Jacob Erickson (Niles) 18:44.30; 61. Miguel Rodriguez (Niles) 18:51.20; 64. Trenton Gordon (Dowagiac) 19:02.20; 70. Owen Riggenbach (Niles) 19:25.70; 78. Gavin Ayers (Edwardsburg) 20:10.70; 84. Adolfo Sanchez-Perez (Niles) 20:51.70; 87. Angel Brito (Dowagiac) 21:14.10; 93. Loren Bowen (Dowagiac) 22:41.50.

DIVISION 3
At Portage

Team Standings: 1. Saugatuck 29; 2. Buchanan 53; 3. Union City 72; 4. Schoolcraft 107; 5. Constantine 163; 6. Bangor 167; 7. Centreville 171; 8. Watervliet 194; 9. Bloomingdale 241; 10. Coloma 285; 11. Fennville 311; 12. Comstock 322; 13. Brandywine DNF.

1. Daniel Mandujano (Watervliet) 16:28.31.

Area state qualifiers: 11. John Keser (Buchanan) 17:10.68; 14. Liam McBeth (Buchanan) 17:25.87; 15. Jack Sherwood (Buchanan) 17:28.37; 17. Jacob Kuntz (Buchanan) 17:37.16; 18. Coy Weinberg (Buchanan) 17:43.95; 31. Bodie Bryans (Buchanan) 18:25.38; 45. Ari Johnson (Buchanan) 19:13.45

Other area finishers: 84. Cody Hoskins (Brandywine) 24:03.23

GIRLS
DIVISION 2
At Portage

Team Standings: 1. Otsego 48; 2. Sturgis 102; 3. St. Joseph 106; 4. Paw Paw 119; 5. Lakeshore 136; 6. Niles 179; 7. Marshall 199; 8. Battle Creek Harper Creek 206; 9. Three Rivers 235; 10. Berrien Springs 241; 11. Edwardsburg 251; 12. Dowagiac 290; 13. Coldwater 318; 14. Vicksburg 373; 15. South Haven 444

1. Emma Hoffman (Otsego) 17:51.68.

No area state qualifiers.

Area finishers: 16. Charlie Drew (Niles) 20:34.57; 20. Sadie Bonczynski (Dowagiac) 20:47.39; 28. Claire DevlescHoward (Niles) 21:23.91; 32. Kennedy Kaylor (Edwardsburg) 21:32.47; 36. Khloe Matlock (Niles) 21:35.88; 39: Grace Leman (Edwardsburg) 21:44.47; 48. Alexandra Jijon (Dowagiac) 22:23.79; 50. Kloe Kiggins (Niles) 22:29.78; 53. Haili Martz (Niles) 22:37.48; 55. Layla Gableman (Edwardsburg) 22:47.35; 61. Aubrey Jackson (Niles) 23:05.01; 63. Annika VanBuren (Edwardsburg) 23:07.73; 67. Piper Bryant (Edwardsburg) 23:20.49; 68. Mali Szalai (Edwardsburg) 23:22.87; 71. Jocelyn Kiner (Dowagiac) 23:32.44; 76. Jaeleah Schoff (Dowagiac) 23:56.26; 78. Kylie Conn (Niles) 24:06.40; 80. Riley O'Konski (Dowagiac) 24:19.03.

DIVISION 3
At Portage

Team Standings: 1. Union City 61; 2. Buchanan 70; 3. Saugatuck 70; 4. Schoolcraft 100; 5. Kalamazoo Christian 141; 6. Brandywine 158; 7. Watervliet 201; 8. Bangor 211; 9. Fennville 213; 10. Centreville 241; 11. Hartford 293; 12. Constantine 345; 13. Bloomingdale 395.

1. Isabelle Sliter (Fennville) 19:33.30.

Area state qualifiers: 5. Madeline Young (Buchanan) 20:17.63; 11. Alison Murray (Brandywine) 21:30.34; 12. Avery Mollberg (Buchanan) 21:30.36; 13. Miley Young (Brandywine) 21:33.60; 14. Makynna Williams (Buchanan) 21:38.58; 18. Isabelle Overmyer (Buchanan) 22:02.24; 21. Alaina Nagel (Buchanan) 22:21.00; 22. Adyson Baker (Buchanan) 22:23.91; 38. Hana Yamagata (Buchanan) 23:20.07

Other area finishers: 30. Sydney Olson (Brandywine) 22:54.33; 42. Aubree Murray (Brandywine) 23:45.02; 67. Lexi Troup (Brandywine) 25:33.77; 73. Sidney Roeder (Brandywine) 25:56.34; 82. Allisoin Kline (Brandywine) 26:57.71

SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

BACK

Continued from page B1

plunge boosting the Vikings' lead to 21-0 with 4:09 remaining. His run capped off a nine-play scoring drive.

Niles held a 12-9 advantage over Paw Paw in first downs. The Red Wolves outrushed the Vikings 161-128.

Bennett completed 3-of-7 passes for 72 yards, including a 51-yard completion to Max Rucker, Sam's younger brother.

Hess ended the night as Niles' top ground gainer with 25 carries for 53 yards and one TD. Gordon added five trips for 37 and one TD.

The Red Wolves, who hadn't given up more than 15 points in a game all season, found it tough up front against a Vikings' offensive line that sports the likes of senior Riley Cowan (5-11, 255) and sophomore Evan Williams (5-9, 200) at tackle, junior guards Malakai Burris (5-9, 225) and Chase Brawley (6-1, 280) and senior center Jordan Cunningham (6-0, 230).

Paw Paw's junior tailback Ben Miller paced the Red Wolves on the ground with 16 carries for 94 yards. P.J. DeYoung added 13 attempts for 27 and Bryson Newell rushed six times for 25.

Niles' defensive line did a great job containing Paw Paw's speed and depth out of the backfield.

That group of Viking defenders included RJ Fielder (5-11, 200), Bryce Young (5-9, 220) and Cowan (5-11, 255).

Ward Cheney added seven tackles for the Niles' defense. Anderson and Hess added five stops apiece, while Max Rucker finished with four. Brendan Olsen added an interception for the Vikings.

"Those three turnovers by our defense were huge momentum builders and you could tell right away how quickly it changed the game," Sam Rucker said.

"We've dealt with plenty of injuries this season and were underdogs but its given us more fuel and we're still playing with great energy," Sam Rucker said.

Anderson, one of Niles' standout defensive backs, beamed with pride when asked about the Vikings' stalwart effort on defense.

"I'm supposed to set the edge on the outside and stuff it so my safeties can come up and make a play on the runner. We have an amazing defense with some good linebackers and safeties. We know how to read our blocks and holes. Our guys know when its time to come up and put a hit on someone. There's no words to describe how good this feels to win another conference title," Anderson said.

Shaw had nothing but praise for Anderson's effort and the rest of the Vikings' contain unit.

"Alex had a heckuva game. He's physical and quick and probably our best tackler on defense that we have besides Sam," Shaw added.

With a successful regular season now in the rearview mirror, Niles' head coach said its a matter of waiting to see who the Vikings get in the first round of the state playoffs which begin next weekend.

"Our kids really believe. We always tell the kids about next man up. We had a couple kids go down before the summer was even over. Even when we lost Brandon, I didn't hear one person say 'Oh man its over'. They remained positive and that's the attitude you need to have," Shaw said.

"So many of these kids have played varsity football since their freshman year. They have alot of game reps and nothing takes them by surprise. That experience goes a long way."

Although disapointed in the outcome, Paw Paw head coach Dennis Strey stated his team are is looking forward to the postseason.

"Our turnovers hurt us and they stopped us on a few drives. We have to clean some things up before the playoffs. We talked to our kids at halftime about coming out in the second half and scoring on that first drive. For some reason we couldn't move the ball successfully like we have all season. Give Niles a ton of credit, they are a great football team," Dennis Strey said.

Niles had its hands full defensively coming in against a Paw Paw offensive line that features Division I Kentucky commit Darrin Strey, Dennis' son, who anchors the Red Wolves' offensive line at 6-7, 300 pounds.

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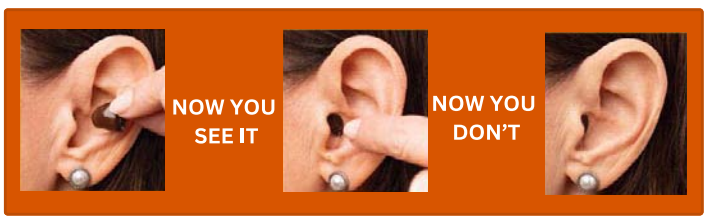

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CODE: SC500370

Area men get prison time

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — Two area men were sentenced to prison Monday in Berrien County Trial Court at the Niles courthouse. Other area residents received probation, jail and other sentences.

Jimmie Lee Brown, Jr., 64, homeless, pleaded guilty to larceny $1,000 to $20,000 and possession of narcotics/cocaine and was sentenced to 14 months to five years in prison on the larceny case and a concurrent 180 days in jail on the drug charge. He has credit for 89 days served and must pay $396 in fines and costs.

Brown

The incidents occurred July 18 and Aug. 21 in Niles.

Berrien County Assistant Prosecutor Kate Arnold noted that Brown took an electric bike in broad daylight in the larceny case.

"He's been coming into court for a long time," she said. "We've tried everything with him including probation and local jail sentences. He thinks he can do whatever he wants."

Berrien County Trial Court Judge Jennifer Smith said that the court had tried to give Brown services in the past and it hadn't resulted in any change in his behavior.

"You continue to commit crimes no matter the sentence we give you," she said. "You have a terrible record. Hopefully you will choose to stop committing crimes when you get out."

Choyer M. Goodlow, 42, of Niles, pleaded guilty to possession of narcotics/cocaine, possession of a firearm by a prohibited person and maintaining a drug house and was sentenced to 12 months to five years in prison on the firearm charge and credit for 70 days served on the other two charges. He must pay $334 in fines and costs.

Goodlow

The incident occurred Aug. 20 in Niles.

Arnold noted that Goodlow has been selling drugs since 2007 and has been given an ample number of opportunities in the past. She asked that Goodlow not be given a Swift & Sure probation.

Defense attorney Shayne Williams said she thought Goodlow would benefit from a probation sentence. She noted that he has been working and has a stable place to live. Goodlow said he was not a bad person.

Judge Smith said that Goodlow continues to commit crimes even after a number of opportunities on probation and noted that the drug charge in the case was originally for drug trafficking.

"What I can't overlook is the fact you had a firearm when you couldn't," she said. "That is certainly troublesome when someone is saying they are trying to do better. You clearly made a choice to engage in this behavior."

Other area residents were sentenced to jail or probation.

Anna-Alicia Bishop, 30, of Benton Harbor, pleaded guilty to fourth degree fleeing and eluding and unlawful use of a motor vehicle and was sentenced to 150 days in jail with credit for 79 days served and $266 in fines and costs. The jail term can be served in any penal institution.

The incident occurred June 6 in Niles Township. Bishop also faces fleeing and eluding charges in Indiana and other charges in Calhoun County, Michigan.

Bishop

Arnold said she was concerned that Bishop committed the unlawful use of a motor vehicle offense in Benton Township and then fled south to Indiana at high rates of speed. She noted that Bishop did a similar offense in 2021 in Van Buren County, that time with children in the car with her.

Defense attorney Daniel French said that Bishop has taken responsibility for her actions and wants to straighten up her life. Bishop said she was despondent after her mother's death and was trying to end her life when she fled.

Judge Smith said that Bishop needs to stay on her medications and realize the danger to herself and others when she flees police.

"It's troubling that this is not the first time for you to do this," she said. "When you stop taking your medications, bad things happen. Your criminal record is not terrible but you now have two high speed chases on your record and that's not good. You're going to kill someone else or yourself."

Mason Lee Colandria, 24, of Elkhart, pleaded guilty to possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle and was sentenced to 10 days in jail with credit for three days served and $258 in fines and costs. The firearm was forfeited.

The incident occurred March 15 in Niles.

Arnold said it was concerning that he was under the influence and walking around with the gun tucked in his waistband. French said his client had shown poor judgment and has learned that alcohol and guns don't mix.

Jermaine Devon Grihm, 30, of Buchanan, pleaded guilty to attempted uttering and publishing and was sentenced to two years probation, credit for two days served and $2,534.86 in fines, costs and restitution.

The incident occurred Nov. 7, 2023 at the Honor Credit Union in Buchanan.

Monica Marie Salceda, 29, of Niles, pleaded guilty to larceny in a building and was sentenced to two years probation, 60 days in jail with credit for seven days served, 80 hours of community service and $1,936 in fines, costs and restitution. The rest of the jail sentence can be served on tether.

The incident occurred July 28, 2023 in Bertrand Township.

Brooke Noel Hopkins, 43, of Mishawaka, pleaded guilty to attempted larceny in a building and was sentenced to credit for five days served, $80 restitution to Brentwood, 80 hours of community service and $698 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred Oct. 28, 2022 at the Brentwood Assisted Living facility in Niles when Hopkins, an employee, took medications meant for a patient.

An 18-year-old Niles resident pleaded guilty to resisting and obstructing police and was sentenced to two years probation under the Holmes Youthful Training Act, credit for two days served, 50 hours of community service and $553 in fines and costs. The conviction won't be entered on their record if she is successful on probation.

The incident occurred March 18 in Niles Township.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Tony Leininger.

SMC 'Sawdust Day' promotes building trades

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Communicate and be empathetic and kind was the advice architect Tony Leininger left prospective construction trades students from area high schools Oct. 25 at Southwestern Michigan College's "Sawdust Day."

"To communicate well," Leininger said, "listen more than you talk. And talk more than you email and text. Don't hide and say things you wouldn't if we were together. One-on-one conversation is preferable to email or text."

On empathy, Leininger said, "I want you to care not only about your customer or client, but your colleagues. Care equals better products."

"Last but not least, be kind," Leininger said. "We're human, we make mistakes, and you're going to have to ask for a favor somewhere along the way. If you've been kind, chances are they'll want to help you."

Leininger, of CARMI Design Group in Niles, not only works on SMC projects, such as the current residence halls expansion, he is in his 14th year teaching for the college.

"It sounds strange, an architect teaching construction classes, but designers and builders need to work together," said Leininger, 64, who is celebrating 35 years in the business.

"You could not be in a better place than construction at this time," Leininger said. "We have a labor shortage in our industry like we have perhaps never seen as a generation retires. Hand in hand with the labor shortage, we're seeing CTE (career technical education), a resurgence of training, and interest rates are still low enough to make it attractive to people who want to build."

When Leininger finished high school (he attended SMC in 1979 before transferring to the University of Cincinnati) he had industrial arts, encompassing wood shop, metal shop, auto shop and drafting. Public schools eliminated many such programs in the 1980s and '90s. When the pendulum swung back, CTE emerged.

Trained to draw by hand, Leininger adapted to drawing by machine. AutoCAD, a 2D and 3D computer-aided design software application, was released at the end of 1982.

With today's technology, he can walk clients with Oculus headsets through a virtually real finished structure before he builds it.

"Your generation is going to be immersed in virtual reality and robotics at the same time," he said. "It's really going to take off, with more automation in construction. I'm excited because I think there's a divide between builders and designers. A hundred years ago there was no delineation. A master builder did it all, with no separation, like the auto industry, where both are on the same lines. Strong relationships build trust and mitigate risk."

Mark Schmitt represented Watervliet's Trident Dock and Dredge, which specializes in inland-lake marine construction, building permanent piers, boat hoists, steel seawalls and rip rap and bioengineered shorelines.

"Dock and Dredge was started in 1991 by my father, who had been a farmer," said Schmitt, starting at Paw Paw Lake's 26 miles of shoreline.

"Tony's right, there's so much demand. It's a great career path," Schmitt said. "A lot of tradespeople left Michigan in the last recession. We're still rebounding from that. We also need leadership, guys who can take a crew and execute a job. It's a tremendous opportunity for young people.

"We offer summer jobs," Schmitt said. "That's how we found (2024 graduate) Joe Kissane. Sharp kid, great work ethic and well-trained in this program. He came to us knowing stuff and now he has a great career, working alongside two master carpenters. We're seeing him just blossom. He's got leadership capability and is coachable. Be a lifelong learner to become a star player for your team."

He ticked through a list of skills utilized at Trident — heavy equipment operation, welding and fabrication, custom carpentry, mechanics, licensed electricians, project managers, CAD, permitting, clerical and accounting.

"A person with no experience can start at $17-$18 an hour. A lot of guys earn $25 to $30, plus time-and-a-half overtime. We're doing a marina on Gull Lake and there will be incentive bonuses."

Ivan Alvarado and Sam Gusky spoke on hardwood flooring for a growing newer company, LumberJack Direct of Berrien Springs, established in 2015. Alvarado, a 2023 graduate, demonstrated the sawmill at Sawdust Day in 2022. Gusky also attended SMC, but studied accounting.

"You can start at around $22 an hour and, depending on your skills, go up to about $26," Alvarado said. "We're moving into commercial flooring. Someone who worked with us became vice president of a large finish company and flies back and forth to Germany."

May graduate Drew Ickes talked about joining Dan Vos Construction east of Grand Rapid in Ada. A larger company with 100 employees, it's capable of tackling projects in-house.

Ickes recalled gutting a 19th-century historical building in Lowell while preserving its brick exterior, then swapping timbers for steel framing for offices.

Vos specializes in food and pharmaceuticals (hair nets, lab coats), working around avoiding costly plant shutdowns.

"We are experienced in getting in and getting out. I was working in Allegan, where downtime of one line for an hour costs $2 million."

"There are a lot of jobs in construction," Ickes said. "It can be a lucrative industry to get into — especially now because there are so few young people. The average age of people I work with is 45."

LIVERY

Continued from page A4

earlier this year.

Community Development Director Rich Murphy gave an update on not only the McCollum Livery project but also other businesses interested in participating in the downtown social district. With the Livery project, commissioners, with Swem abstaining because of a business interest, approved a resolution in support of the state granting a social district license to the developer.

Murphy told commissioners to expect more businesses to apply for social district liquor licenses. He said McCoy's Creek Tavern and Thistledown and Row both are pursuing social district liquor licenses at the state. The two businesses already have regular liquor licenses.

Murphy hinted at another downtown project in the works. While he wouldn't divulge details, he said another business is looking to apply for a redevelopment liquor license. The downtown area has been designated as a redevelopment district which allows the city to have more liquor licenses.

He called the social district and the addition of more social district liquor licenses will elevate the downtown experience for visitors. He said the state has been offering social district liquor licenses for three years and the track record is now out there showing that social districts don't bring more problems.

Murphy also discussed two other projects. The riverfront kayak launch project is moving forward with the commission's formal acceptance of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant awarded for the project earlier this year. The city is getting $229,400 from the state and matching it with $80,600 raised from local donations.

Murphy said the city is working with Abonmarche on the design of the project in order to go out for bids. He said ground will be broken in the spring.

The other project discussed was the demolition of the Buchanan Feed Mill and Baroda Tire properties. He said bids are being sought for the different parts of the project and he hopes that the city will be able to tap into county funds to pay for all of the demolition work. Estimates earlier this year put the cost at $250,000.

Monday's meeting also featured discussion of Election Day, another upcoming meeting, the chances of getting a drug store in town after Rite Aid closed and a local business's effort to help hurricane relief efforts in North Carolina and surrounding states.

City Clerk Kalla Langston said early voting has been strong so far at the Niles courthouse with 800 people a day taking advantage of early voting.

Besides the next commission meeting being a day later because of Veterans Day, the commission will hold a strategic planning workshop to talk about the budget and other issues on Nov. 13 at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Dan Vigansky answered a query from the public about the chances of getting another drug store. He said that big chains like Walgreens aren't interested in coming to Buchanan and that independent pharmacists want space and amenities that aren't necessarily available.

Money talked about the efforts by McBain's Lane to organize the community to gather supplies for hurricane victims. He said many community members donated including the Buchanan Fire Department who donated expired gear.

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Miscellaneous For Sale

For sale, a refurbished mid-2019 Apple Macbook Pro with .4 GHz Intel Core i5 (13.3 inch, 8GB RAM, 256GB SSD) Space Gray (Renewed)
Brand Apple
Model Name MV962LL/A
Screen Size 13.3 Inches
Color Space Gray
Hard Disk Size 256 GB
CPU Model Core i5
Ram Memory Installed Size 8 GB
Operating System Mac OS
Special Feature IPS Retina Display, True Tone Technology, Touch Bar | Touch ID Sensor
Graphics Card Description Integrated
Asking $500. It is still in the box.

Also for sale, a RIF6 adjustable height standing desk converter — 32-inch wide laptop riser or dual monitor workstation. Easily sit or stand with gas spring lift. Still in the box. Asking $75. Will sell in combo with the computer or separately.

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Public Notices

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made by PAUL E. MADDEN, a single man, 22338 US Hwy 12, Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112, to OAK MORTGAGE, 125 E. Chicago Road, Sturgis, Michigan 49091 dated August 24, 2017 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Cass and State of Michigan, on August 28, 2017 in Liber 1127, Page 2278 there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six and 23/100 ($124,486.23) Dollars due on the mortgage and no proceedings having been instituted to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, where by the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;
Now Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and in pursuance of the statute in such case made and provided, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the Cass County Courts and Law Building, 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031 in the City of Cass, and County of Cass, Michigan, that being the place of holding Circuit Court in and for said County, on November 6, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount as aforesaid . then due on said Mortgage together with 5.67% percent interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises are described as follows, to-wit:
The land referred to in this policy, situated in the Township of Ontwa, County of Cass, State of Michigan, is described as follows:
Lots 3 and 26 and the West 59 feet of Lots 2 and 27, Adamsport, according to the recorded plat in Liber A of Plats, Page 36, Cass County Records, ALSO, the Northerly 20 feet of Lot 28 and the Northerly 20 feet of the Easterly 16 feet of Lot 27, Adamsport, EXCEPT part of Lots 2 and 27 described as: from the Southeast corner of Lot 2, measure North 71 degrees 11 minutes West along the South line of said Lot, 16 feet; thence measure North 18 degrees 27 minutes East, parallel with the East line of said Lot, 122.15 feet to the point of beginning of the land herein described; thence North 10 degrees 11 minutes East, 139.85 feet; thence South 71 degrees 17 minutes East, 20 feet; thence South 18 degrees 27 minutes West, 138.35 feet to the point of beginning.
PIN: 14-090-050-002-00
Property Address: 22338 US Hwy 12, Edwardsburg, MI 49112
Pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the last day to redeem the Sheriff's Deed will be May 6, 2025, however, if an Affidavit of Abandonment is filed with the Register of Deeds, the last day to redeem will be December 6, 2024, or until the time to provide the notice was required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later.
If said property is in fact sold at the above-described foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the above listed Mortgagor will be responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to Oak Mortgage LLC for damaging the property during the redemption period.
ATTENTION PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.
Dated: October 12, 2024
OAK MORTGAGE, LLC
Mortgagee
HaasCaywood PC
By: P. Joseph Haas, Jr.
Attorney for OAK MORTGAGE, LLC
Business Address:
112 South Monroe Street
Sturgis, MI 49091

Niles Daily Star: Oct. 12, 19, 26 and Nov. 2, 2024
FC/MADDEN

PUBLIC NOTICE

SYNOPSIS
OF THE MINUTES OF THE ONTWA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONDAY OCTOBER 14, 2024

The regular meeting of the Ontwa Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7pm .
Roll call showed Supervisor Marchetti, Clerk VanBelle, Treasurer Leist, Trustees Stutsman, Kozinski, and Bolock were present. Trustee Christensen was absent.
Approval of the Agenda
Public Comment: No public comment Approval of Consent Agenda
Commissioner Report: Roseann Marchetti Committee Board Reports: Zoning, Ambulance, Township Roads, Parks, Cemetery.
Old Business:
New Business: Resolution to Adjust/Amend the Budget, Trick or Treat
Hours, Deputy Zoning Administrator, Adamsville Cemetery rates.
Schedule of township meetings: Board of Trustees November 7th, Ambulance Board November 13th , Police Board November 14th , Wastewater
Board October 23rd , Planning Commission November 6th,
Adjournment: 7:31pm
Minutes of Board of Trustee meetings may be found on the Township website:
www.ontwatwp.org
Respectfully submitted by Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk
Approved for Publication by Supervisor Jerry Marchetti

Niles Daily Star:
Nov. 2, 2024
MEETING SYNOPSIS

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Niles Daily Star:
Nov. 2 and 9, 2024
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COUNTY OF BERRIEN
AND CREDITORS
NOTICE
FILE NO.
2024 – 0906 – DE - R

ESTATE OF PATRICIA MARIE PURDY, Deceased Date of Birth: August 8, 1950
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including creditors and heirs of the deceased whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
Be advised that a Petition for the Determination of Heirs has been filed with the Court and a hearing on said Petition will be held on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024 at 9:20 A.M.**, via Zoom teleconference. Please contact the attorney for the estate for further information.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The Decedent, PATRICIA MARIE PURDY, who lived at 700 Clay Street, Niles, Michigan, died September 4, 2024.
Creditors of the Decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to JAMES PURDY, named personal representative, or to the probate court at 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085 - 1183 and the named personal representative within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

October 28, 2024

James Purdy
4928 North California Avenue
1310 Chicago, Illinois 60625-3626

Robert L. Landgraf, Jr.
Attorney Post Office Box 1310
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Niles Daily Star:
Nov. 2, 2024
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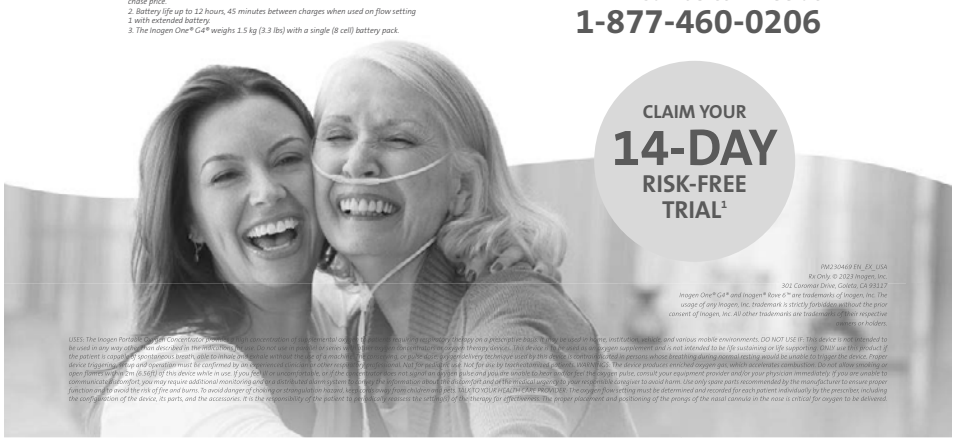

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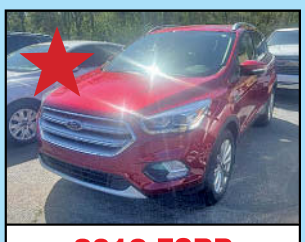

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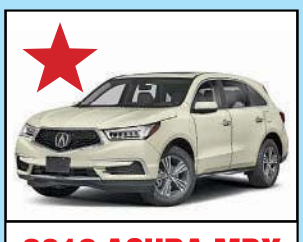

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Just in!! Off lease, one owner with only 34,000 miles
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Oh So Purdy!
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Every option, super condition.
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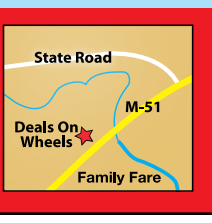
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